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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/084,615	02/28/2002	Motoo Yamasaki	249-159	4132

7590 04/20/2004

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EXAMINER

BORIN, MICHAEL L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1631

DATE MAILED: 04/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/084,615

Applicant(s)

YAMASAKI ET AL.

Examiner

Michael Borin

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 15-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 15-33 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

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Part III DETAILED ACTION

Claims 15-33 are currently pending.

Restriction Requirement

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 15(in part), 23, 19-22, drawn to a modified polypeptide, classified in class 530, subclass 350, in general.
- II. Claims 15 (in part), 16-22, drawn to, classified in class 530, subclass 350, in general.
- III. Claims 24-33, drawn to method of treatment, classified in class 514, subclass 02.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Groups I and II are drawn to independent and/or patentably distinct peptides since there is no common core structure identified for the peptide of unknown structure of Group I and peptide having SEQ ID No. 1 of Group II. Each would be expected to possess distinctly different structure (e.g., amino acid content, secondary and tertiary structure), and/or physico-chemical properties.

Inventions I,II and III are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the

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process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the products as claimed can be used in a materially different processes such as for stimulating cell cultures in vitro or in peptide synthesis.

Species Requirement

Election of species should be required prior to a search on the merits in all applications containing both species claims and generic or Markush claims.(MPEP 808.01(a))

Upon election of a single one of the Groups from above the following election of species is hereby required for the elected Group for the initial search for examination on merits:

A. The claims of Groups II or III are individually or dependently directed to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species of peptides having various substitutions in SEQ ID No. 1. See claims 16-18 for group II and corresponding claims in Groups III.

B. The claims of Groups I- III are individually or dependently directed to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species of polyalkyleneglycols. See claims 19-22.

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C. The claims of Group III are directed to species of peptide used for the treatment : select between a peptide of unidentified structure(as in claim 24a and 33) or peptide having (substituted) sequence of SEQ ID No. 1 (for which the species are to be elected according to (A) above).

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species, even though this requirement is traversed.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

To be complete, a response to the election of species requirement should include a proper election along with a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. MPEP 809.02(a).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Borin whose telephone number is (571) 272-

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0713. Dr. Borin can normally be reached between the hours of 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. EST Monday to Friday. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Michael Woodward, can be reached on (571) 272-0722.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-0549.

MICHAEL BORIN, PH.D
PRIMARY EXAMINER

April 15, 2004

mlb

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Borin', with a stylized flourish at the end.